

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION**

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SETTLEMENT
TENTATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY ORDER
FOR MANDATORY MINIMUM PENALTIES
IN THE MATTER OF
PLACER COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 28, ZONE NO. 6
SHERIDAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
PLACER COUNTY**

The Placer County Service Area No. 28, Zone No. 6 (Discharger) is the owner and operator of the Sheridan Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) in Placer County and operates the WWTP pursuant to Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R5-2002-0088 (NPDES No. CA0081621) (NPDES permit). On 2 April 2007, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Regional Water Board) Executive Officer issued Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint No. R5-2007-0510 (ACL Complaint) to assess mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs) for certain effluent limitation violations of the NPDES permit. The Discharger has expressed its desire to settle the matter and has waived its right to a hearing on the ACL Complaint.

This Notice announces the proposed settlement of the ACL Complaint, the terms of which are set forth in a tentative ACL Order. MMPs are required by California Water Code (CWC) section 13385(h) and (i) for specified violations of NPDES permits. However, CWC section 13385(j) provides an alternative to assessing mandatory penalties against a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) serving a "small community," as defined in CWC 13385(k)(2). Under this alternative, the Regional Water Board may require the POTW to spend an amount equivalent to the mandatory penalty toward a compliance project that is designed to correct the violations. As described in the tentative ACL Order, the Discharger, a POTW serving a small community, is subject to \$270,000 in MMPs. The Discharger has spent \$1,042,000 on a compliance project to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant and bring the Discharger into compliance with the NPDES permit. The tentative ACL Order proposes to permanently suspend the \$270,000 in MMPs due to the successful completion of the compliance project, well in excess of the mandatory minimum penalty amount.

This Notice also announces the beginning of a public review period for the proposed settlement. The public has 30 days to review and submit comments on the Proposed Settlement, as required by the Clean Water Act, prior to the Executive Officer's determination about whether to approve the Proposed Settlement. A copy of the Proposed Settlement documents and the files concerning the enforcement action are available from the Regional Water Board's website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/tentative> or by contacting Spencer Joplin at the address below. Comments on the proposed settlement must be submitted in writing and must be received by the Regional Water Board **no later than 5:00 p.m. on 8 October 2007**. Comments should be addressed to the following:

Spencer Joplin
Water Resources Control Engineer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114
sjoplin@waterboards.ca.gov

Please bring the above to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.